UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3629	

DATE MAILED: 05/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO 90C (Rev 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _14 October 2004_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1,2,4-14,16-23,46,48-56 and 82_ is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1,2,4-14,16-23,46,48-56 and 82_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

   1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
   application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This is in response to the applicant's communication filed on October 14, 2004,

wherein:

Claims 1-2, 4-14, 16-23, 46, 48-56 and 82 are currently pending in this

application;

Claims 1-2, 14, 46, 48-55, and 82 have been amended;

Claims 3, 15, 47, and 83 have been cancelled.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this

application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action

has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on October

14, 2004 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

3.   The amendment filed on October 14, 2004 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132(a)

because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132(a) states that no

amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added

material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows:

4.   Claims 1 and 46 have been amended from "creating a set of desired co-inventor

qualifications" to creating *by the first computing device* a set of desired qualifications

The creating of the qualifications by the computer appears to be new matter since the

specification indicates that the co-inventor requirements are submitted (created) by the

initial inventor. The application as filed lacks any description of the computer creating

the qualifications.

5.   Claim 14 has been amended to include the language *wherein the Invention*

Proposal Server sends a message to the pool of co-inventors over the network. The

Invention Proposal server sending a message appears to be new matter. The application

as filed lacks any description of the Invention Proposal server sending a message.

6.   Claims 49-51, 54-55 have been amended to include a fee being obtained from *a*

fee collection system. The application as filed lacks any description of a fee collection

system.

       Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of
> making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the
> art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall
> set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

7.   Claims 1-2, 4-13, 46 and 48-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph,

as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains

subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to

reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the

application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

       See the discussion of the objection to the introduction of new matter above for a

detailed explanation as subject matter which was not described in the specification in

such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor had

possession of the claimed invention at the time the application was filed..

8.   Claims 1-2, 4-13, 46 and 48-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph,

as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject

matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled

in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or

use the invention.

It is unclear how the first computing device creates a set of co-inventor

qualifications.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by
another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted
on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant
for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall
have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the
international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such
treaty in the English language.

9.   **Claims 14 and 16-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated**

by Mayer et al (US 2001/0034630) (hereinafter referred to as Mayer).

Regarding Claims 14, 19, 20:

Mayer discloses a system, the system comprising:

- a network of a plurality of computing devices (Figure 1 (10), page 2 [0023]);

a server for receiving information and for creating a pool (Figure 1 (12), page 3 [0037]

page 5 [0082-0083]) ;

- a computing devices for transmitting information to the server over the network.

  (Figure 1 (20)(30), page 2 [0023] *Figure 1 depicts a computer network 10*

  through which remote devices 20,30 may communicate with one or more host

  servers 12); and

- a database for storing records (profiles) (page 3 *server 12 stores a database*

  program which maintains one or more databases such as candidate profile

  database and job profile database)

- wherein the server is capable of sending a message to the pool over the network

  (page 1 [0011] *candidate can be contacted via an e-mail message or an instant*

  message transmitted to the candidate's browser).

Regarding Claim 16.

Mayer discloses a system wherein the server creates a file (database of stored

information) (page 3 [0037] *server stores a database program and maintains one or*

more databases such as candidate profile database (36) and a job profile database (37).

The database program stores candidate profile data, job profile data and the like).

Regarding Claim 17.

Mayer discloses a system wherein the server further comprises a means by which a user

can access the file (*databases with candidate profile data, job profile data*) and add data

over the network (page 2 [0023] *remote devices 20,30 may be any computing device that*

can communicate with central server 12 over the network connection 13; page 3 [0045]

data can be entered into the database by a candidate accessing the server 12 by a remote

terminal).

Regarding Claim 18:

Mayer discloses a system further comprising:

a web server for providing at least one web page accessible over the network, said web

page comprising a means to access and add data to a file over the network (page 2 [0024]

server 12 maintains a web site which is hosted by the Internet. A candidate or employer

communicates with the server through remote terminals (20, 30); page 3 [0043] *host*

server 12 can direct any remote computing devices 20,30 to display an appropriate

interface such as one or more pre-formatted web pages so that a user can interact with

the server).

Regarding Claim 19:

Mayer discloses a system further comprising a computing device for transmitting

information to a database (remote devices 20,30, page 2 [0023] (Figure 1)).

Regarding Claim 21 and 22:

Mayer discloses a system wherein the server adds individuals to the pool by searching a

database for a candidates that match qualifications and eliminates candidates that do not

meet the qualifications (page 5 [0082][0083], *the server compares the search criteria to*

the candidate profiles stored in the database 36 and lists candidates who match the

search criteria (Figure 4 step 92) (Thus, those that do not match are eliminated or not

listed).

Regarding Claim 23:

Claim 23 depends on claim 14 which is directed to a system. Therefore, the type

information in the record is determined to be non-functional descriptive data and cannot

render non-obvious an invention that would have otherwise been obvious. *In re Gulack,*

703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983). The data in the record does

not alter how the computer functions, ie the matching of the criteria with the

qualifications.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

10.   Claim 52 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by

www.inventors.net retrieved from the Internet Archive Wayback machine of date

January 25, 1999 hereinafter referred to as InoNet.

Regarding Claim 52:

InoNet discloses method of providing support for the development of inventions of a

plurality of inventors over a network, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a secured forum on a network for a pool of potential co-inventors and an initial

inventor to communicate and to further develop proposal for invention (page 1 *virtual*

network of inventors world-wide, a place of collaboration and collective magic; page 4

from its database InoNet chooses a group of 8-10 inventors; page 7 *conducted in a secure*

electronic environment, page 8 *InoNet selects potential team members from the InoNet*

database of inventive people).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

11.   Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8-13, 46, 48-51, 53-55, and 82 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.

103(a) as being unpatentable over InoNet in view of Mayer et al (US 2001/0034630)

(hereinafter referred to as Mayer).

Regarding Claims 1 and 46:

Inonet discloses a method for supporting the development of inventions (InoNet offers an

on-line problem-solving service for inventors and people working with intellectual

property), the method comprising the steps of:

- creating, by a computing device, a subscriber list (page 1 *users register with*

  InoNet (subscribe) and are included in *a databank of inventive people*) comprising

  records having at least a name, contact information (see pages 9-13 *registration*

  information includes name and contact information), and qualifications (pages

  12-13 *Special Expertise and Education*);

- storing said list in a database (page 1, InoNet is a databank of inventive people, page 4 from its database, InoNet chooses a group of 8 to 10 inventors) ;

- receiving, by the computing device a proposal (page 4 *technology, product, process or packaging problems are submitted*, the Examiner interprets the proposal as the problem needing a solution)

- creating, by the computing device a pool of co-inventors (page 4 *InoNet chooses a group of 8-10 inventors from its database*) by searching for records in the list (*databank of inventive people*) with qualifications matching the desired co-inventor qualifications (see page 7 *the database of inventive people is scanned and a diverse team of highly qualified people are assembled*, page 8 *the potential team members are selected by InoNet in cooperation with the client company*), wherein said co-inventors in the created pool develop the invention described in the proposal (see page 3 - *problems (proposal) find solutions (invention)*).

InfoNet does not disclose a step of contacting, by the computing device, the subscribers in the pool or the step of submitting the desired qualifications with the proposal or storing the desired qualifications in a database.

However, Mayer discloses

- a step of contacting by the computing device the subscribers (candidates) in the pool (page 1 [0011] *the candidate can be contacted via an e-mail message, an instant message transmitted to the candidate's browser, and the like*; also see page 4 [0047])

- the step of submitting the desired qualifications with the proposal (page 5 [0080] and [0081] *employer may then conduct a search for possible candidates for a job position by entering search criteria* (qualifications)) and creating (submitting) a set of qualifications (page 3 [0037] *server stores a database program which maintains one or more databases, such as a job profile database* 37), page 5 [0080] *a process by which an employer may submit job profile data)*;

- the step of storing the desired qualifications in a database (page 3 [0037] *server 12 preferably stores a database program which maintains one or more databases, such as candidate profile database 36 and job profile database* 37)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the submission of candidate profile information and the step of contacting candidates as taught by Mayer with the disclosure of InoNet since the Internet is being used to match job candidates and employers with increasing frequency and the system allows an employer to search profile data corresponding to a plurality of candidates and return results corresponding to candidates who match the search criteria with increased efficiency and speed, as opposed to a manual search, and to quickly notify the candidates without the candidates having to wait for a letter or fax.

Regarding Claims 2 and 48:

InoNet discloses a method further comprising providing, by the computing device, a forum for the pool to communicate and to further develop the proposal (page 1, *this is a*

*place for creativity, **collaboration** and collective magic*; page 4 and page 7 -*the problem*

solving sessions takes place in a secure online environment)

Regarding Claim 4.

InoNet discloses a method wherein the proposal is transmitted over the network (page 1

InoNet, *The Innovator's Electronic Network*, page 7 *the problem solving sessions takes*

place in a secure online environment).

Regarding Claim 5.

InoNet does not disclose a method wherein the step of creating a pool is performed

by a server.

However, Mayer discloses wherein the step of creating a pool is performed by a

server (page 5 [0082, 0083] *the server compares the entered search criteria to the*

candidate profiles stored in the candidate profile database 36. The server next lists

candidates who match the entered search criteria (Fig. 4 (92)).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to combine the teaching of the server performing the function of creating the

pool as taught by Mayer with the disclosure of InoNet since the Internet is being used to

match job candidates and employers with increasing frequency and the server cooperates

to maintain the system and perform the method with increased efficiency and speed.

Regarding Claim 6:

InoNet does not disclose method wherein the step of contacting subscribers is

performed over the network.

However, Mayer discloses contacting subscribers (*candidates*) over the network (page

1 [0011] *candidate can be contacted by an email message, an instant message*

transmitted to the candidate's browser, an the like).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to combine the contact teachings of Mayer with the disclosure of InoNet since

an email or instant message would allow the candidates or subscribers to be notified of

the match quicker and more efficiently than would be a notification sent by regular mail

as a letter, or delivered by fax or phone.

Regarding Claims 8 and 53:

InoNet discloses a method wherein the step of providing a forum further comprises a

step of providing at least one web page as the forum (InoNet is a website, *a virtual*

network of inventors using the intellectual power of the web to provide online problem

solving sessions, page 1).

InoNet does not disclose the web page being stored on the server

However, Mayer discloses a web page stored on a server (page 2 [0023] and [0024],

page 3 [0043-0045]).

It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to

combine the teaching of Mayer with the disclosure of InoNet since the server cooperates

to maintain the network system and perform the steps of the method and enables a

candidate or an employer to interact with the server with one or more pre-formatted web

pages.

Regarding Claim 9:

InoNet discloses a method wherein the step of

creating a subscriber list further comprising a step of:

contacting, by an individual using a computing device, a subscriber database (page 1, *join*

our databank of inventive people, Register Now (hyperlink)),

creating a subscriber record for the individual on the subscriber database (pages 1 and 9-

13, *once registered the subscriber joins the databank of inventive people*);

inputting, by the individual, information including a name of the individual, contact

information of the individual, and qualifications of the individual into the subscriber

record (page 9-13); and

storing the subscriber record on the subscriber database (page 1 *databank of inventive*

people, page 7 *database of specialist*).

Regarding Claim 10:

InoNet does not discloses a method wherein the step of creating a subscriber list

comprises establishing non-subscriber criteria; using said non-subscriber criteria to select

individuals, creating non-subscriber records for said selected individuals, each of said

non-subscriber records including information about a selected individual; and

maintaining said non-subscriber records on a non-subscriber database.

However, Mayer discloses a method wherein the step of creating a subscriber list comprises establishing criteria (page 5 [0080, 0081] *employer submits job profile data and search criteria at web site hosted by server 12*); using the criteria to select individuals candidates (page 5 [0082] *the server then compares the entered search criteria to the candidate profiles stored in candidate profile database*), creating records for said selected individuals including information about a selected individual (*candidate profile* Figure 4); and maintaining the records in a database (page 3 [0037] *candidate profile database (36)*).

Mayer does not disclose that the candidates are non-subscribers. However, the type of candidates is determined to be non-functional descriptive data. Nonfunctional descriptive data cannot render non-obvious an invention that would have otherwise been obvious. *In re Gulack*, 703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983). The steps of creating the list by matching criteria would be performed the same regardless of the type candidate.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Mayer with the disclosure of InoNet since the Internet is being used to match job candidates and employers with increasing frequency and the system allows an employer to search profile data corresponding to a plurality of candidates, thus expanding the search, and return results corresponding to candidates who match the search criteria with increased efficiency and speed, as opposed to a manual search.

Regarding Claim 11:

Mayer discloses adding individuals (*candidates*) to the created pool of co-inventors by searching said database for candidates that match desired qualifications (Page 5 [0080-0083]).

Regarding Claims 12 and 13:

Both InoNet and Mayer disclose a databank of inventive people (InoNet page 1) and candidate profile database (Mayer Fig. 2B (36)). Mayer and Inonet further disclose information such as contact information, employment type, education, and background data (InoNet pages 9-13, Mayer pages 3-4 [0047-0054] and page 5 [[0065-0074])

Neither InoNet or Mayer disclose a record including a confidentiality level or a method wherein the confidentially level is used to eliminate a subscriber.

However, the confidentiality level is determined to be non-functional descriptive data. Nonfunctional descriptive data cannot render non-obvious an invention that would have otherwise been obvious. *In re Gulack*, 703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983). The confidentiality level would be a qualification or criteria by which the match is performed. The steps of the matching the criteria with the qualifications would be performed the same regardless of what type information was required.

Therefore, it would be obvious to incorporate into the teaching and disclosure of InoNet and Mayer a field on the registration page or pre-formatted web page which allowed confidentiality information to be entered since intellectual property is an asset that is protected by companies and inventors and a company would not want to risk losing the potential asset to a competing company by allowing access to the information

to someone who is not trustworthy, thus this person would be eliminated by the system

since his/her confidentiality level would not match the criteria/qualifications necessary to

make the list of potential candidates or inventors.

Regarding Claims 49 and 54:

InoNet discloses a method further comprising submitting a registration form to be

included in databank of inventive people. Inonet does not disclose obtaining fees by a fee

collection system.

However, Mayer discloses obtaining fees by a fee collection system as shown in

Figure 4 where the employer pays to unlock candidate identification and page 3 [0042]

which identifies the web site host charging fees.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of

the invention to include obtaining fees as taught by Mayer with the disclosure of InoNet

so as to generate revenue to run the job-placement web site business.

Regarding Claims 50 and 55:

InfoNet discloses a website for inventors which creates a pool of co-inventors (page 4

from its database, InoNet chooses a group of 8-10 inventors).

InfoNet does not disclose a fee collection system in which a fee is obtained from the

initial inventor/company entitling the inventor to obtain information concerning the pool

of potential co-inventors.

However, Mayer discloses the employer paying a fee to unlock the identification and

contact data of the candidates (page 5 [0084])

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to combine the payment of fees by the employer as taught by Mayer with the

disclosure of InoNet so as to generate revenue on the basis of the number of qualified

candidates that employers actually find through the use of the web site rather than

charging for all candidates that match a particular job description so more employers will

continue to use a job placement web site since the amount of money they are charged is

proportional to the number of suitable and desirable candidates that the employer finds

through the web site.

Regarding Claim 51:

InoNet discloses a method further comprising the step of :

using a subscriber criteria (page 8 *InoNet, in cooperation with the client company selects*

potential team members) supplied by the corporation (page 6 *corporate R&D*, page 7

Who uses the service? Medium to large corporations) and creating a pool of co-inventors

(page 8 *after scanning a database of inventive people, a diverse team is assembled*, page

4 *from its database, InoNet chooses a group of 8 to 10 inventors*).

InoNet does not disclose obtaining a fee from the corporation.

However, Mayer discloses a fee being paid (page 5 [0084] *employer pay a fee to*

unlock identification and contact data) and *a web site host capable of charging further*

fees (page 3 [0042])

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention was made to combine obtaining fees as taught by Mayer with InoNet since

Mayer states there is a need for an interactive employment system and method which

generates revenue on the bases of the number of qualified candidates that employers find

through the use of a job-placement website.

Claim 82 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mayer et al (US

2001/0034630) (hereinafter referred to as Mayer) in view of InoNet.

Regarding Claim 82:

Mayer discloses computer system, the computer system comprising:

at least one computer-readable memory including (Figure 2A (25), page 3 [0034-0037]

the memory 25 may be an internal or external large capacity device for storing computer

processing instruction, computer-readable data, and the like, server 12 includes a

processor 31 and a memory 35 which may store one or more operating system and

application programs):

- code for maintaining a database structure of a list with records including a name,

  contact information, and qualifications (page 3 [0037] *server 12 stores a database*

  program which maintains one or more databases, such as candidate profile

  database and job profile database),

- code for searching for records in the list with qualifications matching a set of

  desired qualifications for the invention proposal (page 5 [0080-0083] *server then*

  compares the entered search criteria to candidate profiles and lists candidates

  who match entered search criteria) ,

- code for creating a pool from the records that match a set of desired qualifications

  ((page 5 [0080-0083] *server then compares the entered search criteria to*

candidate profiles and lists (pools) candidates who match entered search criteria)

,

Mayer does not disclose:

- code that maintains forum being accessible to the pool

- code for receiving a proposal for an invention.

However, InoNet discloses:

- code that maintains forum being accessible to the pool (page 4, *from the database of inventive people, InoNet chooses a group of 8-10 inventors* (pool), page 1, *this is a place for creativity, collaboration and collective magic*, page 4 and page 7 – *the problem solving sessions take place in a secure online environment* (forum))

- code for receiving a proposal for an invention (page 4 – *technology, product process or packaging problems* (proposal is the problem needing a solution) are submitted).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the collaborative and problem solving teachings of InoNet with the disclosure of Mayer since companies can no longer depend only upon in-house resources for answers to problems, they need a place where problems find solutions and innovators find a community of like-minded people to collaborate to solve complex problems, assemble a diverse team of highly qualified people for several disciplines and industries and tap into creative resources of inventors all over the world .

12.   **Claims 7 and 56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable
over Inonet as applied to claims 1 and 52 above, and further in view of Eisenhart
(2001/0047276) (hereinafter referred to as Eisenhart).**

Regarding Claims 7 and 53:

Inonet dose not disclose a server.

However, Eisenhart discloses discloses a method wherein the step of providing the forum

(technology exchange and collaboration) is performed over the network by a server

(Figure 2 (242) contributor server, page 3 [0035] (contributor is one contributing to the

commercial development of the technology page 1 [0006]), each of said plurality of

computing devices being accessible by one or more subscribers in the pool of co-

inventors (contributors) (page 4 [0042])

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to combine the server as taught in Eisenhart with the disclosure of InoNet so as

to allow the contributor to use his/her computer and the connection between the server

and the Internet to register with and access the technology exchange system.
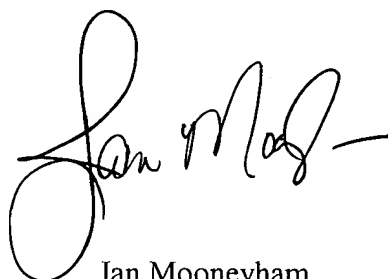
Regarding Claim 56:

Eisenhart discloses the secured forum is on the Internet (Figures 1- (100)

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Janice A. Mooneyham whose telephone number is (571) 272-6805. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-6812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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